

Tips for using the FortiGate Cookbook

Before you get started, here are a few tips about using the FortiGate Cookbook:

Understanding the basics

While the FortiGate Cookbook was written with new FortiGate users in mind, some basic steps, such as logging into the FortiGate unit, are not included in most recipes. This information can be found in the [QuickStart](#) guide for your FortiGate unit.

Screenshots vs. text

The FortiGate Cookbook uses both screenshots and text to explain the steps of each example. The screenshots display the entire configuration, while the text highlights key details (i.e. the settings that are strictly necessary for the configuration) and provides additional information. To get the most out of the FortiGate Cookbook, start with the screenshots and then read the text for more details.

Model and firmware

GUI menus, options, and interface names may vary depending on the FortiGate model you are using and the firmware build. For example, the menu **Router > Static > Static Routes** is not available on some models. Also, on different models, the Ethernet interface that would normally connect to the Internet could be named port1, wan1, wan2, or external.

Also, some features are only available through the CLI on certain FortiGate models, generally the desktop models (FortiGate/WiFi-20 to 90 Series).

FortiGate ports

The specific ports being used in the documentation are chosen as examples. When you are configuring your FortiGate unit, you can substitute your own ports, provided that they have the same function.

For example, in most recipes, wan1 is the port used to provide the FortiGate unit with access to the Internet. If your FortiGate uses a different port for this function, you should use that port in the parts of the configuration that the recipe uses wan1.

IP addresses

IP addresses are sometimes shown in diagrams to make it easier to see the source of the addresses used in the recipe. When you are configuring your FortiGate unit, substitute your own addresses.

Turning on features

Some FortiOS features can be turned off, which means they will not appear in the GUI. If an option required for a recipe does not appear, go to **System > Config > Features** and make sure that option has not been disabled.

Text elements

Bold text indicates the name of a GUI field or feature. When required, *italic* text indicates information that you must enter.

Icons

Several icons are used throughout the FortiGate Cookbook:



The exclamation icon indicates a warning, which includes information that should be read carefully before continuing with the recipe.



The lightbulb icon indicates a note, which includes information that may be useful but is not strictly necessary for completion of the recipe.

Selecting OK/Apply

Always select OK or Apply when you complete a GUI step. Because this must be done frequently, it is an assumed step and is not included in most recipes.